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International
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Agence canadienne de
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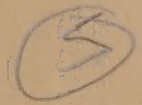
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UGANDA

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PEOPLE

The population of Uganda is primarily Bantu and Nito Hamitic which are divided into such groups as the Baganda which are most numerous. There are lesser numbers of Iteso, Basoga, Banyankore and about 20 other African groups. There are also small numbers of people of European, Asian and Arab descent. Most of the population hold traditional African beliefs; about one-third are Moslem and the rest are Christians.

GEOGRAPHY

Uganda is a land-locked nation about the same size as Britain and lies astride the equator. It has varied and often magnificent scenery with high mountains and many large lakes. Temperatures are tropical but moderate all year with rainfall fairly evenly distributed throughout the year except in a dry zone stretching intermittently from the south-west to the north-east. There are some drought-prone areas in the north.

HISTORY

European explorers arrived in Uganda in the 1860s and were followed by Protestant and Roman Catholic missionaries. By the end of the 19th century the British and Germans were the dominant colonial forces in East Africa. Present-day Uganda -- then known as Buganda -- became a British protectorate. A railway from Mombasa in Kenya to Lake Victoria, completed in 1901, helped open up the country to trade although few Europeans settled in Buganda because the British prohibited non-Africans from holding title to the land.

From 1921 to 1961 African participation in government was gradually introduced and in 1962 Uganda became independent as a constitutional monarchy with the Queen of England as Queen of Uganda. In 1963 the Queen was replaced by a president as head of state. By 1966 internal difficulties led to President Kabaka being deposed by the prime minister, Dr. Milton Obote, who combined the office of president and prime minister.

In 1967 Uganda adopted a new constitution and became a republic but remained in the Commonwealth. In 1971 a coup d'état led by Field Marshall Idi Amin Dada deposed the Obote government. Popular support for Amin gradually disappeared under his increasingly brutal régime enforced by an army of mercenaries. The economy deteriorated badly and a reign of terror prevailed for almost a decade.

In 1979 Uganda anti-Amin forces backed by Tanzanian troops took the Ugandan capital of Kampala and overthrew the Amin régime. The Uganda National Liberation Front established a provisional government under President Yusufu Kironde Lule, a former head of Makerere University. An election in December 1980 returned Dr. Obote as president.

ECONOMY

Uganda has experienced extreme difficulties in reconstructing its economy following the fall of the Amin régime and is heavily dependent on foreign aid.

Under Amin, economic mismanagement and a reign of terror caused much of the agricultural base of the country to be abandoned, debts to soar, many of the educated to flee the country, the public service to virtually disappear and the manufacturing and commercial sectors to almost close down.

Uganda is primarily an agricultural country with production in the hands of small-scale cultivators. Coffee and cotton are the most important crops with tea and sugar as export earners along with tobacco, oilseeds and peanuts. Hides and skins have traditionally been an important export as there is a large cattle population. Hardwood is also exported.

CANADIAN ASSISTANCE

Virtually all CIDA projects in Uganda were suspended in January 1973 due to a lack of commitment to development shown by the Amin régime. Only the CIDA training program for Ugandans in Canada in the fields of agriculture, veterinary science, forestry, commerce, geology and fisheries continued. Prior to the Amin régime, the main emphasis of CIDA activities in Uganda was supplying teachers to secondary schools and teacher training institutions, providing advisers in the fields of forestry, fisheries and geology and assisting the dairy sectors. A number of Canadian-funded voluntary organizations were also active. CIDA is currently providing a total of approximately \$18 million in development assistance to Uganda, mainly through non-governmental organizations.

BILATERAL ASSISTANCE

CIDA's activities through its bilateral channel are currently limited to providing \$2 million in food aid to people most seriously affected by a drought in northern Uganda and to providing a \$3 million line of credit to assist in reconstruction through the purchase of industrial raw materials, spare parts, equipment and other goods.

In addition CIDA provided \$2.84 million in emergency balance of payments in response to an international appeal for funds made by Uganda.

Mission Administered Funds (MAF)

This \$200,000 annual fund for small projects in Uganda is administered through the Canadian High Commission in Nairobi. The projects, usually initiated by community groups and voluntary organizations, provide economic,

technical or social development assistance. No project may receive more than \$50,000 support from this fund. Some MAF-assisted projects in Uganda have included the Yerya Parish Hammer Mill, the West Acholi agricultural implement workshop, a school bus in Kampala and the St. Lwanga Girls' Training Centre.

MULTILATERAL AND REGIONAL ASSISTANCE

Among the United Nations and other multilateral agencies active in Uganda to which CIDA contributes funds are: the United Nations Development Program, World Bank, World Food Program and UNICEF. CIDA has contributed \$950,000 towards two UNICEF-sponsored projects in Uganda.

ASSISTANCE FROM CIDA'S SPECIAL PROGRAMS BRANCH

The assistance channels of the Special Programs Branch involve direct participation of Canadians in efforts to promote self-reliance and meet basic human needs in developing countries. Uganda is currently receiving development assistance through the following programs of CIDA's Special Programs Branch:

Non-Governmental Organizations Division (NGO)

CIDA is currently funding 10 projects initiated by Canadian non-governmental organizations for a total CIDA contribution of approximately \$5 million. The largest single contribution, by far, is \$3 million to the Overseas Book Centre for the purchase of school supplies and books desperately needed in Uganda to assist in the reconstruction of the education system at all levels.

Other organizations receiving funds include UNICEF Canada for its rehabilitation project in the Karamoja Region, the Anglican Church of Canada for its rehabilitation and reconstruction project, Canadian Lutheran World Relief for its reconstruction project, Club 2/3 Inc. for its rehabilitation program in Kisubi, the African Medical Research Foundation for its reconstruction and health services project, the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) for its demonstration farm, World Vision for its famine prevention program, and YWCA Canada for its rehabilitation project.

International Non-Governmental Organizations Division (INGO)

CIDA is contributing a total of approximately \$700,000 to support projects undertaken by two international non-governmental organizations active in Uganda. One is the International Federation of Agriculture based in Paris which is operating a program in conjunction with the Uganda Cooperative Alliance and to Acord Uganda/Acord London for agricultural equipment, health care centres and water resource development in the Acholi District of northern Uganda.

Institutional Cooperation and Development Services Division (ICDS)

CIDA is currently funding six projects involving Canadian educational institutions for a total CIDA contribution of approximately \$1.3 million. The projects include short-term staffing for Makerere University assisted by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), assistance to the Uganda College of Commerce and Uganda Technical College by Grant McEwan, Kenyano and Fairview Colleges in Alberta. Other projects involve Memorial University of Newfoundland and Makerere University; University of New Brunswick and Uganda Institute of Ecology; and Uganda Teachers Federation and the Canadian Federation of Teachers.

COUNTRY PROFILE

Official name	The Second Republic of Uganda
Capital	Kampala
Area	243,411 sq. km.
Population (1980)	13,457,000
Population density	49 people per sq. km.
Population growth rate (1970-79)	3%
Official language	English
Significant dates	
1962	Uganda becomes an independent member of the Commonwealth.
1963	Uganda proclaims itself a republic.
Life expectancy at birth (1979)	54 years
Infant mortality rate (age 0-1)	160 per 1,000 live births
Daily per capita calorie supply as percentage of requirement (1977)	91%
Percentage of population with access to safe water (1975)	35%
Adult literacy rate	n.a.

Currency	Ugandan shilling	
GNP per capita (1979)	U.S. \$290	
Inflation rate (1979)	28.3%	
Percentage of labor force in:		
agriculture	55%	
industry	7%	
services	38%	
Main exports	Coffee, cotton, tea	
Exports to Canada (1980)	Coffee	\$991,000
	Other	1,000
	<u>Total</u>	<u>\$992,000</u>
Imports from Canada (1980)	Oils, fats, waxes, extracts and derivatives	\$ 57,000
	Broad woven fabrics	\$ 48,000
	Electric lighting and distribution equipment	\$ 27,000
	Other	\$ 43,000
	<u>Total</u>	<u>\$175,000</u>

Note: n.a. indicates information not available.

Sources: World Development Report 1981, published by the World Bank.
Atlaseco faits et chiffres 1981/82, published by Le Nouvel
Observateur.
Population and Vital Statistics, published by the United Nations.
1981 World Population Data Sheet, published by the Population
Reference Bureau Inc.
Various publications of the Government of Canada.

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